

## **CONCORDIA COUNCIL ON STUDENT LIFE**

Minutes of a meeting held in Breen Senate Chamber, Loyola Campus at 12:30 p.m. on Friday, 27 March, 1992.

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**PRESENT:** Donald L. Boisvert, Chair, Peter Côté, Roger Côté, Brian Counihan, Hernani Farias, SupMei Graub, Lana Grimes, Marlis Hubbard, Nick Kaminaris, Ann Kerby, Bluma Litner, Janet Mrenica, Bob Philip, Nancy Torbit, Kathy McDonald, Secretary.

**ABSENT:** Mohammed Ahsan, Apurna Kurupati, Connie Morales, Charlene Nero, Brahm Rosensweig.

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### **1. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was unanimously adopted as proposed.

### **2. Remarks from the Chair**

Dr. Boisvert took this opportunity to review the documents included in the package. These include;

- 1) A statement to the University community condemning incidents of harassment targeting members of CUSA.
- 2) A letter of clarification of certain inaccuracies found in an article written and published in the Link entitled "Student sub-committee to plunge into pool plans for Loyola".
- 3) A letter distributed to the Student Services staff outlining information regarding the move of Student Services at SGW.
- 4) Several information items related to the 1992/93 proposed Student Services operating budget.

### **3. Adoption of the Minutes**

On a motion by Ann Kerby, seconded by Janet Mrenica, the minutes of the 14 February 1992 meeting were unanimously adopted.

### **4. Business Arising from the Minutes**

Dr. Boisvert referred Council to his letter regarding the move of Student Services at SGW. He indicated that it is his hope that this communication will address the immediate concerns that have been expressed by staff and students.

Dr. Boisvert also briefed Council on his discussion with Dr. Bertrand regarding improving the communication between CCSL and the Board of Governors. Dr. Bertrand will be kept abreast of issues and concerns of Council through minutes and related documents and will represent these concerns at the Board of Governors.

A brief discussion followed where the issue of student consultation and the necessity of moving to the 7th floor were pursued. Dr. Boisvert indicated that students would have input as part of the overall consultation process, and that Student Services has been assigned the 7th. floor as the lower floors were committed for classroom use.

Ann Kerby stated that there will be a third elevator installed which will improve access to the 7th floor for both able bodied and disabled students.

Brian Counihan stated that it is important for Student Services to be together and that the Directorate is secure that the design will be the result of extensive input from the various departments. He commented that the concerns raised by the students are valuable and it is expected that they will be seriously considered when designing the new space.

Dr. Boisvert ended the discussion with a commitment to build formal input from students into the design consultation process.

At this time Nick Kaminaris referred Council to Motion #3 b): Motion on Student Input re: Space planning. Based on the verbal report as presented by Dr. Boisvert, he would like to withdraw this motion.

Dr. Boisvert then indicated that he would like to announce formally the leaving of Bob Philip as Director of Recreation and Athletics.

Nick Kaminaris moved, seconded by Nancy Torbit that Council thank Mr. Philip for his long-standing, excellent service to the University. The motion was unanimously approved.

## **5. Report from the Planning and Resources Committee**

A motion moved by Bob Philip, seconded by Hernani Farias re: a Recreation and Athletics Facilities Development Committee was distributed to Council.

### **1. Mandate**

a) To review and elaborate proposals for the development of recreational and athletic facilities at the University;

b) To develop a strategy for the funding of such proposals.

It is understood that this committee will not be involved in operational issues concerning recreation and athletics.



## 2. Composition

- Associate Vice-rector, Services (Student life), Chair
- Director of Recreation and Athletics
- Five (5) student presidents from the student associations
- One (1) CUFA member
- One (1) Student Services Staff member (not Recreation and Athletics)
- Two (2) Recreation and Athletics Staff members (Facilities Coordinator and Campus Recreation Coordinator)

Dr. Boisvert asked at this time if there was any discussion on the motion now before Council. Roger Côté asked if this was a sub-committee of the Planning and Resources Committee. Mr. Philip explained that this is a committee set up to ensure input and follow-up on the subject of recreational facilities and the committee will report directly to the CCSL.

Nick Kaminaris wanted clarification on who the student presidents are to represent and if only student presidents are allowed as representatives. Dr. Boisvert indicated that the presidents are there by virtue of their being empowered by associations to make decisions. Mr. Philip added that the presidents are allowed to name a designate in his/her place and that a serious effort will be made to coordinate schedules in order to ensure attendance at committee meetings.

Ann Kerby wanted to know what the time-frame was for the reporting structure. Mr. Philip responded that since there is a proposal now before the Capital Campaign Committee, the new committee will be bound to some extent by the activities and time-lines of the Capital Campaign Committee.

Dr. Boisvert indicated that we should expect to hear back from this committee within the next few months.

As there were no more comments, Dr. Boisvert asked if members were prepared to vote. The motion was approved unanimously.

Bob Philip, co-chair of the Planning and Resources Committee, presented a brief oral report from the committee. At the last meeting of the committee, Roger Côté provided information and feedback on financial concerns that face students. Possible solutions to these issues were discussed and while there are no motions at this time, it is expected that some solutions to the financial concerns of students will be presented at a later date by the committee.

Mr. Philip then indicated that the next meeting will be scheduled for the near

future to discuss other issues of concern, namely:

- 1) Financial Aid issues
- 2) Academic advising concerns

On this last topic, Janet Mrenica commented on the need to collect data and information on the academic support needs of students. Dr. Boisvert noted that Ms. Kathy McDonald should be invited to attend the meeting when this issue is discussed.

Dr. Boisvert then asked if Council would deal with item 6 b): Task Force on Lesbian and Gay Life under New Business before item 6 a): Proposed 1992/93 Student Services Operating Budget

## 6. New business

### b) Task Force on Lesbian and Gay Life

Ann Kerby moved, seconded by Brian Counihan a motion to establish a Task Force on Lesbian and Gay Life at Concordia.

Move that the Concordia Council on Student Life establish a Task Force on Lesbian & Gay Life at Concordia with representatives from the student body, faculty and staff. This Task Force will investigate and define the issues facing lesbians and gays in their academic, social and cultural life at the university, make recommendations for appropriate action and further study where required.

In establishing this Task Force, the Concordia Council on Student Life will bring to the forefront the need to combat discrimination against, and examine the place of, lesbians and gays within the setting of the Concordia community. It will also address the issue of homophobia as a growing concern at the University. As part of its Mission Statement, Student Services is committed to "supporting the diversity found within the Concordia student community."

### Proposed Task Force Membership

Chair, Director of Advocacy and Support Services  
3 Faculty  
2 Staff  
3 Undergraduate Students  
2 Graduate Students

### The Role of the Task Force to Include:

- in the first instance, further clarifying its mandate and establishing a time table.



- defining and investigating the problems confronting lesbians and gays in their life at Concordia by:

- a) holding a public forum
- b) requesting oral and written briefs from the university community
- c) surveying different sectors of the university
- d) interviewing individuals, departments and associations

- monitoring incidents of homophobia
- reporting on its findings
- making recommendations to CCSL

Interim report due: Fall 1992

Final report due: December 1992

A brief discussion followed regarding the Task Force representation and selection process. Ms. Kerby indicated that student input would be assured and that staff representatives could come from any part of the university. She then went on to explain that the process of selection would be very informal and varied from one group to the next.

Lana Grimes suggested that it would be valuable to add a representative from the item Fraternity Council. This was accepted, and Dr. Boisvert suggested that the Dean of Students facilitate this idea.

Nick Kaminaris asked for more detail on the time-frame of the work of the Task Force. Ms. Kerby suggested that there is a perceived urgency for the work to begin. The Task Force will begin meeting in the near future, research issues over the summer and provide a report for Council in the fall of 1992.

The motion was approved unanimously, with the supported addition to the membership.

Dr. Boisvert then asked Council to consider item 6 a): under new business.

a) Proposed 1992/93 Student Services Operating Budget

Dr. Boisvert made introductory remarks regarding the proposed Student Services budget indicating that the role of Council is to review and recommend approval of a budget in time for the 1992-93 fiscal year. He identified the various documents in the budget package as introductory and contextual comments: a CCSL budget 1992-93 summary, CCSL Transfer Fund 1992-93, Student Services Directorate Short-Term Goals and Objectives 1992-93, the Student Services Directorates 1992-93 projected budget by Department, the Student Services Directorates 1991-92 year end by Department, and a five year summary of CCSL budgets. He cautioned Council about interpreting the five year spread sheet within the context of major structural changes within Student

Services during the recent past .

Dr. Boisvert then focused on the principles that form the basis of the proposed budget:

1) There will be no student fee increase requested in the 1992-93 proposed budget.

2) There are increased financial resources allocated in the area of Financial Aid and a status quo budget proposed in every other Directorate. It is felt that it is possible for Student Services to hold the line at this time, while still maintaining excellence in service.

3) This is a transitional budget, and Council will be presented with a 3-year budget cycle proposal next year at this time.

Dr. Boisvert then commented on the process of review and approval. He stated that the Directorate is presenting a fair and equitable budget proposal, and he expects the discussions to be honest and open. He asked Council to try to avoid being overly `picky` and to appreciate that reallocations within Departments are a result of necessary structural shifts.

At this time Hernani Farias moved, seconded by Bluma Litner, that the proposed 1992-93 budget be received.

Hernani Farias commented that the Short term Goals and objectives may need to be discussed and considered separately. Dr. Boisvert indicated that this would not be a problem although they also need to be considered as a basis for the budget discussions.

Dr. Boisvert then stated that he will consider general questions as well as any specific concerns directed at the various Directors.

Discussion continued for some time where questions both general and specific were answered, and, where necessary, clarification on issues of content and process was provided.

Janet Mrenica and Hernani Farias both indicated that there is significant improvement in the format of the budget and the proposed process for review, and at the same time requested several additional pieces of information.

1) Clarification of the role of CCSL in the budgeting process.

2) Clarification of the role of CCSL in monitoring budgetary modifications following the approval process.

3) A breakdown and listing of Department personnel.

4) Line by line breakdown of the proposed budget by Directorate.

5) Line by line breakdown of projected 1991-92 actual budget.

At this time Dr. Boisvert reviewed the requests for more information. He indicated that concerns regarding monitoring and control will be discussed at the end of the discussion on the budget, while Department goals and objectives will be considered as part of the general budget discussion.



## **7. Reports from Directors**

Dr. Boisvert requested feedback from Council on the format and style of the reports made by the Directors.

Hernani Farias commented that not only is it valuable to hear about what has happened within the past month, but also what the issues are within the various departments.

Lana Grimes stated that it would be helpful to be kept informed about upcoming employment opportunities for students within the various departments.

Nick Kaminaris suggested that written reports from Directors might be helpful.

Dr. Boisvert stated that this might be an unnecessary burden.

Lana Grimes responded that perhaps important information items could be documented. This suggestion received support from Council.

Nick Kaminaris recommended that annual department reports would be useful.

Dr. Boisvert responded that for this year the Student Services sector will develop an annual report. The format and content will be discussed at the end of the term.

The Directors were then asked to provide any important information to Council.

### Health Services-Nancy Torbit:

Ms. Torbit announced that the Youth Theatre will be presenting 'Plague of Innocence' in H-110. This play is about adolescents learning about HIV.

### Financial Aid-Roger Côté

Mr. Côté announced that 120,000\$ has been awarded for in-course bursaries to about 150 undergraduate students.

### Advocacy and Support Services- Ann Kerby

Ms. Kerby announced that the Challenge '92 Grants have been submitted and acknowledgement received. She also stated that student names are needed for the Child Care Task Force.

### Dean of Students-Brian Counihan

Mr. Counihan reminded Council about the CCSL Awards Night on April 3, 1992 in the SGW faculty club.

### Counselling and Development-Dr. Sup Mei Graub

Dr. Graub stated that she needs the names of two (2) or three (3) student representatives for the committee dealing with academic jeopardy.

### Recreation and Athletics- Bob Philip

Mr. Philip announced that the Athletic Awards banquet will be held on April 2, 1992 at Le Bifteck. He also informed Council about the University

Champion/CEGEP All-Star game to be held as a preliminary game to the Harlem Globetrotters game at the forum on March 28, 1992.

Janet Mrenica announced the world premiere of 'A Kind of Family' co-sponsored by Concordia University and the National Film Board. The film will be shown on Tuesday March 31, 1992 in H-110 at 7 p.m.

Nick Kaminaris asked how the employment services negotiations were proceeding. Dr. Boisvert responded that the committee has met and will continue to do so. The Federal Government is proceeding with removal of their employment resources from campuses.

Nick Kaminaris asked Bob Philip how the pool negotiations were going. Bob Philip responded that they were proceeding as expected. Dr. Boisvert indicated that Mr. Kaminaris should refer to the letter addressed to Ms. Kung and Ms. Xenos on this matter.

The meeting was terminated on a motion by Nick Kaminaris and seconded by Bob Philip.

The next meeting of CCSL will be held April 10 in H-769 on the SGW campus.